

Beutnagel 4-1-13-3

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Patent Application

Inventor(s)	Mark Beutnagel Ariel Fischer Joern Ostermann Yao Wang	Case Name	Beutnagel 4-1-13-3
Filing Date	12/31/1998	Serial No.	09/224,583
Examiner	Michael Opsasnick	Group Art Unit	2654
Title	Integration of Talking Heads and Text-to-Speech Synthesizers for Visual TTS		

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231
SIR:

AMENDMENT

In response to an Office action dated February 8, 2002 please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Delete claim 35.

REMARKS

Claims 2-12, 26-28, 31, 2, and 34-40 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Goldenthal et al, US Patent 5,884,267. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Goldenthal et al describe two embodiments. In a first embodiment (FIGS. 1 and 2), a speech signal is acquired from a microphone, and is processed to develop a stream of visemes (line 116) and of audio specification signals (placed in audio file 117). In the second embodiment, the signal acquisition segment is in one computer (sender client 320) and the remainder of the first embodiment is in another computer (receiver client 330) that is remote from the sender client.

Claim 2 defines a method for transmitting signals to apparatus that "produces sounds and includes a video synthesizer." In the context of the Goldenthal et al reference, the question that must be addressed is what does the Examiner assert to be the